

REMARKS

Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiner Pedder for the courtesy extended during the telephonic interview conducted on June 16, 2005. A summary of the substance of the interview is included in the remarks which follow. Claims 1, 5-6, 10, 13, 15, and 18-21 will remain in this application after entry of this Reply. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-12, 14, 16-17, and 22 have now been canceled. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

The provisional election of the invention identified by the Examiner as invention "I" for prosecution is hereby affirmed. Non-elected claim 22 is canceled above.

The claim amendments appearing are made after consideration of both the comments provided by the Examiner in section 7 on page 3 of the Office Action and the suggestions provided by the Examiner during the interview. It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in this application comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The objection to the drawings is no longer applicable, since the terminology referred to by the Examiner in section 8 on page 4 of the Office Action is no longer present in claim 1, and claim 11 is canceled above.

Claim 1 is rejected, along with various other claims, as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,923,245 to Kuwabara in view of German document DE 196 41 665 A1 to Weigend. Claims 13 and 19 are also rejected, along with various other claims, as unpatentable over the Kuwabara and Weigend documents and further in view of British publication 638,225 to Humber Limited. Each of claims 1, 13,

and 19, however, is amended above in the manner discussed during the interview. The Kuwabara, Weigend, and Humber Limited documents, taken as a whole, do not suggest a ceiling covering fastening device comprising, in addition to other elements, an angle profile having an upright leg over which a ceiling covering is held and a ceiling element having an upright edge around which that covering is held, and in which prongs hold the covering, a corner clamping piece is connected with the ceiling element by a clamping frame, and the clamping frame has particular attachment elements as each of claims 1, 13, and 19 defines. U.S. Patent 3,195,948 to Sturtevant et al., additionally relied on in the rejection set forth in section 13 on page 6 of the Office Action, fails to suggest providing structure sufficient to meet the limitations mentioned. As was tentatively agreed during the interview, therefore, each of claims 1, 13, and 19 is patentable.

The rest of the claims remaining in this application are dependent claims and are patentable as well.

It is respectfully submitted that, for reasons discussed during the interview and reiterated in the remarks appearing above, this application is now in condition for allowance.

If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

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